detection means for detecting a signal on the bus indicating a request to access [the] a device;

monitoring means for monitoring the bus for a response by the device; and

transmission means for sending a response to the signal after a selected period of time passes without a response being made by the device.

27. (amended) A data processing system comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of devices connected to the bus; and

a mimic device connected to the bus, wherein the mimic device monitors the bus for a signal selecting a selected device within the plurality of devices for an input/output transaction during initialization of an operating system within the data processing system, monitors the bus for a response by the selected device in response to detecting the signal selecting the device, and sends a response to the signal a selected period of time passes without a response being made by the selected device, wherein the response indicates to the operating system that the selected device is present within the data processing system.

35. (amended) A computer program product for use with a data processing system for mimicking a device, a computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium;

first instructions for detecting a signal on the bus indicating a request to access a device;

second instructions for monitoring the bus for a response by the device; and

third instructions for sending a response to the signal after a selected period of time passes without a response being made by the device, wherein the instructions are embodied within the computer usable medium.

Please add the following claims:

41.   A method in a data processing system for mimicking a device for use within the data processing system, wherein the device may be connected to a bus, the method comprising:

detecting an input/output (I/O) signal on the bus indicating a request to access the device;

ascertaining that the device being requested is to be mimicked;

monitoring the bus for a response by the device; and

mimicking the device by sending a response to the signal when a selected period of time passes without a response being made by the device.

42.   The method of claim 41, wherein the response includes pre-stored data according to a bus protocol.

43.   The method of claim 1, wherein ascertaining that the device being requested is to be mimicked; further comprises starting a timer.

44.   The method of claim 41, wherein the input/output (I/O) signal is a first input/output (I/O), the device is a first device and the response is a first response, the method further comprises:

detecting a second input/output (I/O) signal on the bus indicating a request to access a second device;

ascertaining that the second device being requested is to be mimicked;

monitoring the bus for a seconds response by the device; and

mimicking the second device by sending a second response to the signal when a selected period of time passes without a second response being made by the second device.

45.   The method of claim 41 further comprises:

ascertaining that no further transacting is necessary; and

releasing the bus.